

Library Unlimited

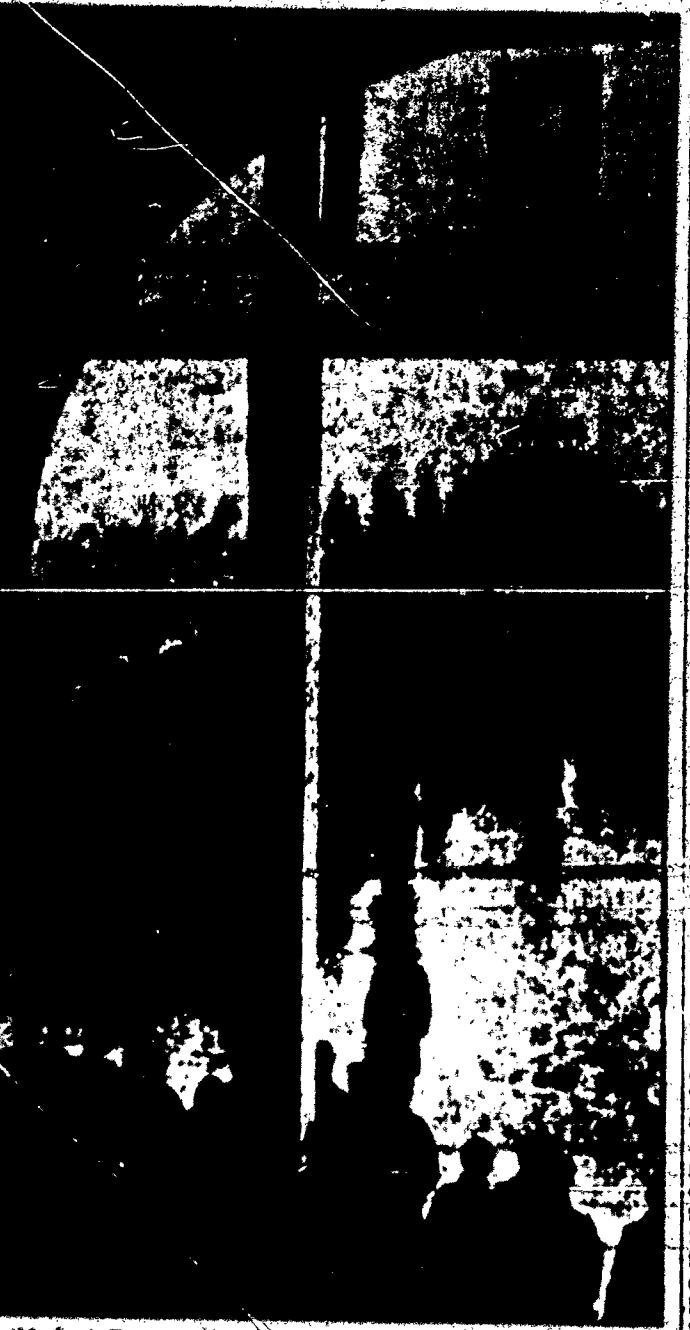
By John O'Connell
The standards of literary criticism and construction... It is more than a paradox. It is a...

I Chose Freedom By Victor Krauchenko

This is the thirteenth installment of "I Chose Freedom," by Victor Krauchenko, former Soviet agent.

CHAPTER XXIV The Two Truths

In the War Engineering Department it was inevitable that I should be initiated into one of the best-guarded and most disreputable secrets of Russia at war. It was a secret that weighed heavily on all who shared it. Only the victors and of the war makes it possible to speak of it.



In this installment of "I Chose Freedom" Victor Krauchenko tells of his installation to work for Glavstat, a state organization of metallurgical factories. Glavstat's office was on Red Square opposite the Kremlin and overlooking Lenin's tomb.

It is only natural in the greatest stronghold of capitalism. The opposition is led by former President Herbert Hoover and certain reactionary Senators and other people in the pay of Morgenthau, Rockefeller and DuPont.

CHAPTER XXV Some Facts About Stalin

Because my post was so close to the plumbline I heard plenty of what might be described as the higher inside information. Where the press is completely controlled there is a ready market for word-of-mouth news. In Moscow, rumors spread faster probably than anywhere else in the world. It only be- cause there was no machinery for oversteering and refuting them.

Library Signpost A Bishop Beheaded

By Rev. Benedict Ehmann

How it was that King Henry VIII could turn into a ruthless persecutor of one whom he once regarded as almost his dearest friend and as the holiest prelate of his realm is a mystery that can be solved only by an understanding of the way human pride and lust can de-throne both reason and gentle affection.

There is one story about Stalin in which I never quite believed but which is generally credited among his intimates. It is to the effect that when facing great de- cisions, he likes to "consult" the dead Lenin in the granite mausoleum on Red Square. Accord- ing to this story he has been known to spend hours alone in the tomb with his thoughts. A high-ranking Chekist told me at one time:

"I don't dabble in spiritualism but this is true: When the Ger- mans were in the doors of Mos- cow, just before Lenin's body was secretly removed beyond the Urals, Stalin remained alone with the corpse for a few hours."

In those uppermost circles it was firmly believed that Stalin is deeply superstitious and has been known to alter plans be- cause the "signs" were unfavor- able. Perhaps uniquely among dictators and successful political- ians, he is essentially a lone wolf, jealous of his privacy and giving little to the public eye. He has long periods of solitary think- ing. He goes into large gather- ings rarely and unwillingly; only when political exigencies require it, and at such times he has a talent for behaving like "one of the boys."

Those who know him long and closely, when they talked about the Boss, agreed that he was a "tough" man, trusting only force and will, which he re- gards as a type of force. He is extremely cautious and has never been known to forgive or forget an offense. When he seems to yield, it is only to improve his position for a new attack from the rear. And he has been known to surround himself with men of the same tough stamp — force- ful, unfeeling, devoid of scruples.

At bottom, of course, Stalin is a lonely man and knows it. In the course of the years he has felt impelled to kill nearly all of his closest friends and com- rades — even men like Ego Ab- dukhanov with whom he had long counted as his most inti- mate friend. The murder of Ki- rov and the death of his fellow- Georgian Ordzhonikidze left great voids in his private life. His most intimate friends in re- cent years have been Mikoyan, Voroshilov, Beria and Molotov.

Stalin's distrust of those around him, however, is patho- logical and makes no exceptions even for the people in his good graces at any given moment. There is little doubt that he has been cruel to his own people. His every act of them, if not now, is a scheme against him. It is potentially a scheme.

Such was the trend of the in- side information. Stalin was per- haps the only one of the Krem- lin leaders whose name was sel- dom touched by scandal. Tales involving ballerinas, actresses, drunken parties and the like were constantly being retailed about other leaders, but never about the Boss. His attempt to keep his fingers on every im- portant phase of national life for such indulgence. His read- ing is serious — Clausewitz, Chekhov, Saltykov — and his fund of information on economic and political affairs amazes peo- ple who come in contact with him.

How And

By John O'Connell
The standards of literary criticism and construction... It is more than a paradox. It is a...

er bishop in England had gone the way Henry wanted. But it was not to be. The cli- max came when Pope Paul III made the imprisoned bishop a Cardinal. Let the Pope send him a hat; I will so pro- vide that whenever it comes to his shoulders, for head he shall have none; for feet he shall have the trial through to its fore- gone conclusion. On June 17, 1535, Bishop Fisher was sen- tenced to die.

The execution was five days later. At dawn the Lieutenant of the Tower came to an- nounce to him that it was the King's gracious pleasure that he should die by the axe in- stead of by the rope. He ac- cepted that offer during the indignation which welled up all over Europe, even among the Protestants, because of the execution of Fisher and More. Henry was very disturbed, and started his propaganda ma- chine working to appease it. He took credit to himself for not having poisoned Fisher, or bled him in lead, or hanged him in a halter. "What best agreed for a traitor," or bur- dened him at the stake but only beheaded him, "which death is most easy."

Easy or not, it looked easy the way it was met by the in- terpreted Cardinal. His life-long austere and his long prison hardships left him little else but skin and bone. He had to be carried to the scaffold on a stretcher. "Nay, masters, seeing I am come so farre, let me alone, and ye shall see me die for my duty's sake." As he neared the block, he said: "I have been in prison, and I have known before of my death and what it was. The worst east sun shined verie bright in his face, wherupon he said to himself (in Latin) these words, (telling up his hands) COME YE TO HIM AND BE ENLIGHTENED, AND YOUR FACES SHALL NOT BE CON- FOUNDED." Then "with a bold courage and a loving chere" he laid his neck on the block and died for the faith of Christ's Catholic Church.

The due to what was in his heart at that supreme moment may be found in a little book on the love of Jesus, The Ways to Perfect Edgdon, which he wrote for his half- sister Elizabeth, a nun while he was in prison. "Consider the love of your spouse the sweet Jesu, how exteal to it, how sure, how fast, how constantly abiding. Marins in- numerable both men and wo- men for his love have shed their blood. No pain, no torment, might compell them to forsake his love. Rather than they would forgo it, they gave it force of the loss of all this world beside, and they would live also."

Bishop Fisher was accused of treason. He was declared degraded from his office and his see of Rochester was pro- nounced vacant. It has never since been filled by a Catho- lic bishop. For months the endless proceedings dragged on, and the hope was held that the bishop's spirit might break especially on every eigh- teenth day.

Stalin's penchant for solitude and his aversion to public ap- pearances, most of us believed, were not necessarily connected with his unprepossessing ap- pearance. The court painters and even photographers who have made millions of images of the man have concluded the fact that he is short, stout and pa-unchy; that his complexion is darker, more Asiatic than most people know; that his face is pockmarked, his teeth uneven and halfrotted. If his physical shortcomings have given him an inferiority complex, it may ex- plain why he swallows Byzantine flattery that would turn a normal stomach.

It may also help explain the fantastic fashion in which the facts of his early life before the revolution, have been de- clared to make them more dramati- cally. For instance, the Marxist police archives list him often as a bookkeeper. I have personally seen such documents. To this day he has a remarkable pro- fessional competence with fig- ures and statistical balance sheets. Yet this humble and in- no- vative fact has never been permitted to see light.

One night I was discussing the lengthless situation with an of- ficial of some standing in our foreign trade setup with whom I was on most friendly terms. Carefully, skillfully, I guided the conversation. "Victor Andrejevich, how would you like to go to Amer- ica?" he said suddenly. "I know that we need men there." "Well, I'd never thought of the idea. Besides, I'm doing very responsible work here at the Sovnarkom, as you know. Still, if I could be useful to the war effort..." My friend was no straggler.

Everything COVERED
When moved by Blanchard, your furniture is protected with clean padding by modern, stress sensitive vans.
Serving Rochester's moving and storage needs for 25 years.
An order today means prompt service in the future.
WILSON ALLEN VAN LAMME, INC.
CALL BLANCHARD
MOVING & STORAGE FIRST
MAIN 4700
320 BROAD ST.

THE LIGHT OF STARS
A novel which reveals the heart and soul of a truly great man.
Kathryn Vest Wise
Fervent, honest, warm, and full of the spirit of St. Christopher's in Baltimore, Savings were in jeopardy — the funds were the property of a Russian. To the rescue, the Gregory Club was organized, and the story of an often forgotten people and of a man whose life was spent proving that knowledge was great, and that knowledge was great, and that knowledge was great.

FRANK'S INC.
FRANK'S SUPPLY STORE
115 FRANKLIN STREET

August SHOWING OF FUR FASHIONS
SUPERB VALUES IN NEWER STYLINGS
Fall 1946 is a dress-up Fall and Fur Fashions are more important than ever. You'll love our selections from modern to classic. They have the styled-just-right finish.
EXPERT FURRIERS!
Styles Ready to Put On
ROCHESTER FUR DRESSING CO.
290 BROAD St. — At West Main 5117

WEL
For a Higher Standard of Living...
got all the modern home conveniences you want. Ironers, washers, refrigerators and everything you need can be paid for easily out of income. Tell your dealer you want them financed thru Central Trust's LOW COST
H. S. L. PLAN
"The Economical Way of Financing"
Main Office
25 EAST MAIN STREET
Rochester Office
1806 EAST AVE.
Williamson Office
WILLIAMSON, N. Y.
Member Federal Reserve System... F. D. I. C.

How And
By John O'Connell
The standards of literary criticism and construction... It is more than a paradox. It is a...
GENERAL EBBERT
FOOD SER
AMERICAN
Bart
HOMOG
SUNDAY
MASSIE
R. ATT
Painting
285
Glen. 819
FOR
MASS
FOR SAT
FOR SAT
Tom Tyle
Lynn Av
EVELL
FL
FURN
327