**Expelled Newsmen**

**Bassow Relates Recent USSR Change**

By Robert Bassow

Whitman Bassow, the former American correspondent in Moscow who was expelled from Russia last August, spoke at a Lecture Series Committee presentation, October 16, in Kresge Auditorium. He discussed the Soviet Union as he saw it during his five years in Moscow.

According to Mr. Bassow, Russia today is a society that is making great strides, but one that is also creating great internal problems. The USSR is changing more rapidly than the U.S., but these changes are not solving all the problems that communism is creating. In fact, the Marxist goals are still far from being achieved. The Russians have developed industrialization and have raised living standards, they have begun to enjoy the luxuries of life. Commercial appliances are becoming more common. The more they have the more they want. People in the USSR for the first time in history are living relatively well. They appreciate the fact of better living and they are not willing to give up their newly won convenience.

Consequently, they are becoming less willing to carry communism throughout the world if the threat of war is present as it is today. Individual attitudes in the USSR are lacking in the initiative to sacrifice for communism. The attitude is to let the other fellow sacrifice for the state. Every picture seems to be wrapped up with the problems of obtaining security, a family, and more money. The people are now less concerned with the more than in years past. Fatal apathy in foreign policy is becoming common. The people are concerned only with the domestic problems of high prices and the quotas which must be met.

Perhaps in education is not evident. However, the people are objecting to the burden of today's schools and Russian children at least to some extent. Complaints of too much homework are common. Russian scientists are always concerned over the school situation. They claim that schools produce machines that are no original thinkers.

The communist concept of specialization from age fourteen is losing support from all fields. Russian parents want their children to go to college whether or not the state agrees. The parents of those children that are accepted to enter college. Consequently, they are willing to stand up in the state in time of need and to fight to the end for it. Russians are patriotic. The Russian threat is a potent danger that cannot be overestimated. America must remain on the rise in order to match the Russian accomplishments.

Mr. Bassow emphasizes that today the U.S. is number one in the world, but our lead is diminishing. In order to remain number one we must advance at a rate much greater than we are accustomed. We must, he says, be willing to sacrifice for America as the Russians have done in the past.

For the past two years Mr. Bassow had been chief of the "Newsweek" staff in Moscow. Prior to this he spent three years from 1955-1958 in the U.S.S.R. as a U.P.I. correspondent. In 1958 he ended his career with UPI and returned to America to study under the Carnegie Press Fellowship which he was awarded for his outstanding work in Russia for UPI. In 1960 he was readmitted to Russia and remained in Moscow until 1961 when he joined the "Newsweek" staff whereupon he was immediately stationed in Moscow.

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**New Plan At Holyoke**

Proposed By Students

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As a result of the revision, students will be able to fulfill their general requirements in three semesters, rather than four. Flexibility during the first two years has been the aim of the reorganization, to meet the needs of the individual students who vary in their high school preparation. According to the dean of admissions, the new curriculum should permit the very well prepared student to go rapidly into advanced work at the same time that it continues to provide for those students who need courses in the basic principles.

A second reason for the revision was cited by Academic Dean John Amos. Stopping what he calls "the rat race," the new program will enable students to concentrate more in the summer and not as superficially. They have the ability to shed fewer subjects at one time, better balancing their load of work fewer and more often can make more effective use of her time.

Technique Wins Top Award

Technique 1962, last year's yearbook, has received a top-class rating by the Associated Collegiate Press. In Technique's nation-wide category, only one book received a higher rating.