

which clearly indicate that artists are used. And much of this creative outlet depicts constantly the fact that the Russian artists, while being interested in innovation, are definitely committed to realism in art, which the masses of people understand and enjoy. This concept seemed ever-present as contacts were made in the fine arts field. To be sure, the same zeal for realism is dominant in the field of music, but somehow—perhaps because of the great difference between the time and space arts—it does not seem to be as obvious. This could also be because in music there is so much current exposure to the classical and romantic periods, including the classical ballet. However, there is recalled an evening in Kiev where we attended a full-fledged classical ballet production—with music and libretto by contemporary Ukraine artists. *Black Gold* (coal) was the name of the ballet, whose theme was based entirely on portrayal of current coal production, the transportation to the mines of young workers and so forth—all of this amid the usual skillful and bewilderingly beautiful classical ballet.

It would be remiss to neglect mention of the educational activities in the great Hermitage Gallery in Leningrad. At this world-famous gallery are opportunities for art appreciation for students beginning the fifth year of general schools. Approximately seventy-five guides who are qualified as teachers are responsible for this work. Not only are lectures arranged at the Hermitage but lectures are also arranged by the specialists from the Hermitage at Pioneer Clubs and Houses of Culture. The lectures at the Hermitage are usually arranged to correlate with academic studies in the general schools. The Deputy Director of the Hermitage, Mr. Livinson-Lessing, told us that attempts are made, for instance, to hold lectures in Egyptian art at the Hermitage at the time students are studying Egyptian history in the general schools. It was pointed out that efforts of the education department of the Hermitage are directed to the development of knowledge of art rather than the development of skill.