THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

A tale of two journalists: Walter Duranty and Garrett Jones

by Dr. James Mace

On June 24 the Pulitzer Prize Committee was sent an open letter by Dr. Margaret Siriol Colley and Nigel Linsan Colley of Bramcote, Notts, United Kingdom, to too long to be recounted here in full, but which can be read on the Internet at https://www.colley.co.uk/soviet_artefacts/du ranty_revocation.htm. (The letter was published in The Weekly on July 20.)

Dr. James Mace is former staff director of the Ukrainian Famine Commission, which was founded in 1986 and issued its report to Congress in 1988. Its mandate was extended in 1998, and in 2002 the commission published a three-volume compilation of the Oral History Project on the Famine-Genocide. Dr. Mace teaches at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and writes for the Kyiv newspaper Den (The Day).

was sent an open letter by Dr. Mar that the key to success in journalism can combat. Duranty seems to have known excellent biography, “Stalin’s Apologist: a scoundrel and openly relished in being in the United States, The New York Times, Union from the most prestigious newspaper they convey on their recipients, have been outstanding achievements in drama, letters, print or not, access to power itself becomes a (Continued on page 8)

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malcolm and his wife even sold their furni- ture, convinced that they would remain in the Ukraine as he reported for the Manchester Guardian.

Into the world of Moscow journalism, a world where everybody had to make his own decision on the moral dilemma Lyons framed as “to tell or not to tell,” came one Garrett Jones, a brilliant young man who had studied Russian and graduated with honors from Cambridge and became an adviser on foreign policy to former British Prime Minister David Lloyd George.

At the age of 25, in 1930 he went to the Soviet Union. In 1932 he wrote with foreboding about the food situation as people asked, “Will there be soup?”

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A couple of weeks earlier the GPU had arrested the much-revered British citizens and Russians on charges of industrial espionage. An announcement was made that a public trial was about to be held for them. The GPU was to be the chief prosecutor in the case. Putting their own people in the dock was not something else. This was news. Putting their words in the dock was one thing, but accusing white men, even such prominent men, of skullduggery was something else. This promised to be the trial of the century, and every journalist working for a newspaper in the English-speaking world was certain he was off the beaten track and would be able to get some story that their editors were paying them to tell. To be locked out would have been equivalent to professional suicide. The dilemma of either to tell or to tell was never put more brutally.

Umansky read the situation perfectly, and in a diplomatic duel that seems to make juggling facts in order to please dictatorial organizations, mostly on the right, took up the cause of telling the world about the Great Holodomor. Umansky wrote: "Those who taught Russian and East European history were snowed under a blanket of denials. It is unknown who exactly played the role of Umansky in this particular tale or who played who. The whole story was a mixture of fact and fiction, and the carrot and stick are fairly obvious: access to scholarly resources in Moscow vs. the veto of any research project, where a number of scholars slanted their journal articles and monographs as ardently as Duranty did his press coverage. So Umansky repeatedly told somebody to somehow venture my own counterpart to “Winter in Moscow,” based on the published works that are too easy to discern. For I was once young man. But in contrast to Jones, I have found a place to live, married the woman I love, and have a forum from which I can from time to time be heard.

Despite Duranty’s prophesies, the Ukrainians did not forget what had happened to them in 1933, and 70 years later the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association sponsored a Ukrainian World Congress, with support from a number of other leading Ukrainian diaspora organizations, to bring to the attention of Walter Duranty’s 1932 Pulitzer Prize with a view to stripping him of it. As Duranty [of Dem] have already sent e-mail of this article to all the members of the Pulitzer Prize Board in the hope that it might help them in their deliberations on this issue.

The whole story of denying the crimes of a regime that cost millions of lives is one of the saddest in the history of the American free press, just as the Holodomor is certainly the saddest page in the history of a nation, whose uniqueness on the world stage was so unexpected that there is, in fact, quite a successful book in English, "The Ukrainians: Under the Hammer," by Malcolm Muggeridge, which contains a chapter on "Winter in Moscow," based on the published works that are too easy to discern. For I was once young man. But in contrast to Jones, I have found a place to live, married the woman I love, and have a forum from which I can from time to time be heard.

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