

# 10,000 Attend Russian Benefit; \$35,000 Raised

Davies, Mme. Litvinoff  
and Film Stars Take  
Part at Arena Show

By JANET JONES

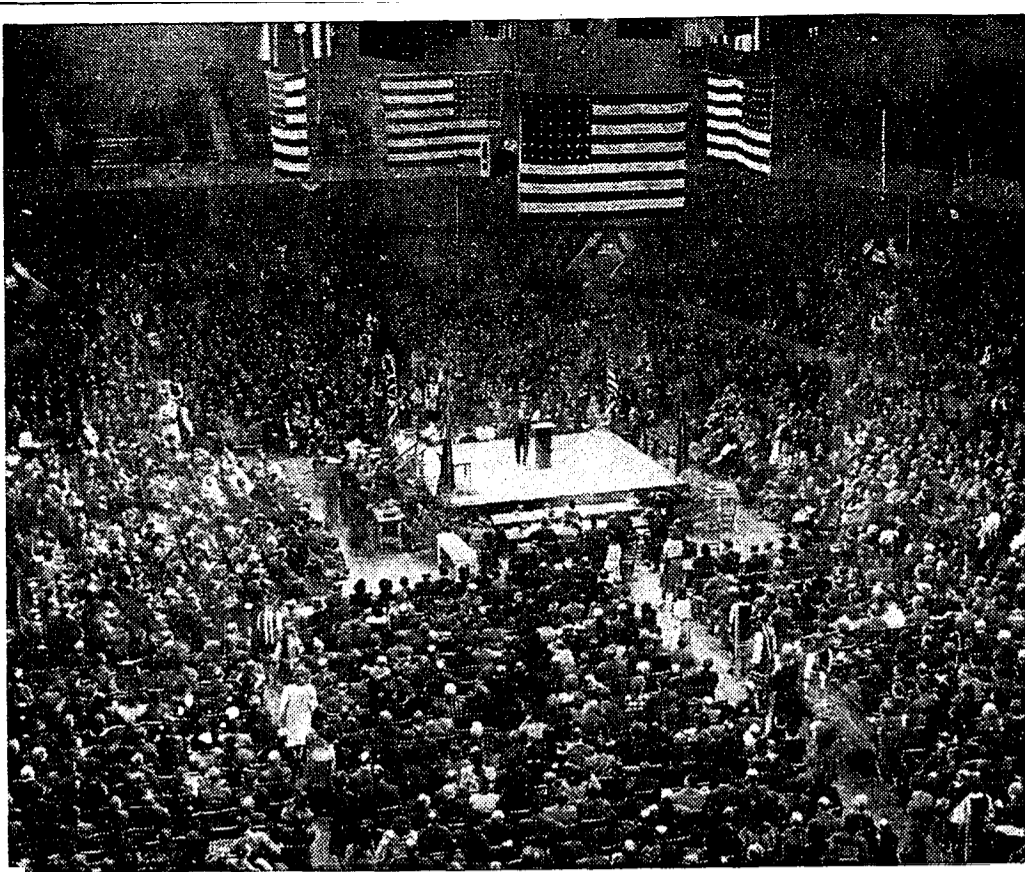
Russia will declare war on Japan if the anti-Axis Allied Powers decide that is "the best way to make certain a Hitler defeat," Joseph E. Davies, ex-United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union, told a wildly cheering throng of approximately 10,000 men and women yesterday afternoon.

Before one of the most demonstrative meetings ever held in Boston—the gala benefit to aid Russia war relief staged at the Boston Arena—the former Ambassador thundered that Russia would not make a separate peace with Hitler, but would make peace "only in conjunction with Britain and the United States."

He told his audience not to lose faith in the Russians, and declared:

**10,000 at Benefit**

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PART OF CROWD AT RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF RALLY AT ARENA

## 10,000 at Benefit for Russian Relief

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"I rejoice that now we Americans no longer are asking other men to fight for the safety of our families, but that we at long last are in this fight and will stay in until victory comes."

### Japan, Hitler Boomed

The huge enthusiastic audience booed and hissed mention of Japan and Hitler. They rose in tribute as Mme. Ivy Litvinoff, British-born wife of the Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Maxim Litvinoff, stepped upon the stage to make her first speech since her arrival in this country, a few days ago.

"We must get rid of Hitler," she said. "All Russia appreciates the great help Americans have given to us. I feel a deep confidence in Russia's outcome in this battle and I feel an equal confidence in Americans in their fight with the Japanese and against Hitler."

The men and women whistled and cheered a host of other speakers, including stage and screen stars, and they literally flung their money into the waiting coffer for contributions.

When the beautiful stage star Tamara asked for funds—seconded by Mischa Auer, Claire Trevor, Tony Martin and others—pandemonium broke loose. Money was practically floating around and when it was counted, together with the receipts from the ticket sales, it amounted to approximately \$35,000.

The hall was lined with the flags of the anti-Axis Allied countries and those of the now conquered countries. A large delegation of British officers and ratings from the ships now in Boston attended, as did 100 members of the Massachusetts Free French organization, led by Prof. Louis Cons of Harvard.

### Flag Ceremony

An event which brought tumultuous cheers was a flag ceremony of all the nations at war with the Axis powers. There were songs by the Pythagoras Chorus, composed of Greek nationals, and by the Jewish People's Chorus.

Robin Ilbert, 12-year-old English schoolboy over here for the duration, brought tears to the eyes of many as he told how he had given his week's allowance—35 cents—"when I heard that Russian women and children were being bombed like my mother's friends were in London."

"Weeks ago Hitler declared that he had a secret weapon to launch against the United States," ex-Ambassador Davies said. "Last Sunday at dawn, he launched it. It was Japan, drenched in dishonor and steeped in treachery."

"It was a foul blow below the belt but it unified America. Japan's treachery has given America and the whole world a clearer conception of what this war is about."

### Must Spike Propaganda

Warning that "we must spike lies and propaganda," the former Ambassador said that "propaganda is Hitler's other secret weapon," that "we must vigilantly guard against and aggressively attack it here," and that an example of such propaganda was the rumor that Russia would make a separate peace with Germany.

"The attitude of the Soviet Government towards Japan and towards America will be determined in conjunction with Britain, China and the United States on the basis of what



AT RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF RALLY in Boston Arena. Robin Ilbert, English evacuee, and Edward C. Carter, national chairman of relief organization, at microphones.

is the best way to make certain of Hitler's ultimate defeat.

"The leadership and intelligence of these four governments; their far-reaching military information, their perspective of major war strategy on a world battlefield can safely be entrusted with that problem."

"They—Russia, United States, Britain and China—don't need any kibitzers or back-seat drivers. Theirs is the tremendous responsibility of winning the war, not merely winning a battle."

"Our future and the world's future depends upon the destruction of Hitler and Hitlerism," he continued, after sketching the history of the Russian war up to the present.

### Hitler's Disaster

"Hitler," he said, "has met a monumental disaster in not being able to take Moscow. Hitler has gone home to lick his wounds, and it is a safe bet that Moscow now will never be taken."

"Stalin has given his word of honor to Britain long since and now to the United States that peace will be made with Hitler only in conjunction with Britain and the United States. For 25 years the word of the Soviet Government in every financial transaction in New York has been as good as its bond. Its credit is the highest 'triple A.'"

"When Mr. Churchill wisely refused to open an attack on the western front because to do so might hazard the outcome of the war, Stalin, with great magnanimity, said, 'I regret, but I completely understand.'"

"Before any of us should now challenge the good faith of our Soviet Government allies, we should earn the right, through blood, sacrifice and tears, to sit in judgment upon a great people who do not surrender, and who lavishly give their lives to stop Hitler. We must never forget that we have been the beneficiaries of their agonies."

"When they fight for their homes they fight for ours. It is wrong, un-Christian, unwise, for us to refuse to credit these able, courageous and earnest men with the same high purpose and honor which we assume for ourselves. They have earned that, not to mention our eternal gratitude for their heroic

conduct in fighting the Hun and in setting Hitler back on his ear."

In her speech Mme. Litvinoff said that she wished Stalin "were here to see this splendid meeting. And I wish Mr. Hitler were here to see it too. I think it might do him some good."

She expressed her gratitude to Americans for their contributions to Russian war relief and for being "great enough to understand that our war is your war."

No matter how "much victory comes," she continued, "American help will be needed and appreciated. I feel deep confidence in the outcome of the Russian war, but we need your help as much as ever."

"One of the most interesting things in this country today is to see the people who never agreed on anything before now all agree on one thing—that they must get rid of Hitler."

Among the other speakers at this meeting which marked the opening of a state-wide campaign for funds sponsored by the Massachusetts Committee for Russian War Relief, Inc., were:

Dr. Hugh Cabot, chairman of the Massachusetts committee; Edward C. Carter, New York, national chairman of Russian War Relief, Inc.; Joseph A. Salerno, president of the state C. I. O. Industrial Union Council; Ernest A. Johnson, secretary-treasurer of the Metropolitan District Building and Trades Council in Boston; Gaetano Salvemini, professor of the history of Italian languages, Harvard University; Prof. Samuel H. Cross, head of the department of Slavonic languages, Harvard; Prof. Pitirim A. Sorokin, sociology department, Harvard; Dr. Elliott C. Cutler, chief surgeon, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital; Rev. Dr. Joshua Loth Liebman, Temple Israel; Rev. Gardner Day, Christ Church, Cambridge; and Rev. Theodore Chappeloff of the Boston Russian Greek Orthodox Church, who gave the invocation.

Telegrams were read from President Roosevelt, Ambassador Litvinoff, Gov. Saltonstall, Mayor Tobin and Serge Koussevitzky, Boston Symphony Orchestra conductor, who is honorary chairman of the Massachusetts Committee for Russian War Relief.

Martin Gabel was master of ceremonies. Other stage, screen and concert stars contributing included Selena Royle, Bartlett Robinson, Mme. Rose Zulalian and Arlene Francis.