

28

Oct. The coming of Fall, my dread of a new Russian winter, are mollified in splendid golds and reds of Fall in Belorussia. Apples, peaches, apricots and cherries abound for these last Fall weeks I am a healthy brown color and stuffed with fresh fruit. (At other times of the year unobtainable)

Oct. 18 My 25th birthday sees ROSA, PAUL, ELLA ~~and~~ ~~and~~ at a small party at my place. ELLA a very attractive Russian Jew I have been going walking with lately, works at the Radio Factory also. ROSA and ELLA are jealous of each other it brings a warm feeling to me. Both are at my place for the first time. ELLA and PAUL both give ash-trays (I don't smoke) we have a laugh.

NOV. Finds the approach of winter now, growing loneliness overtakes me in spite of my conquest of ENNATACHINA a girl from Riba, studying at the music conservatory in Minsk. ~~and~~ ~~short~~ after an affair which lasts a few weeks we part.

NOV. I make the acquaintances of four girls rooming at the "Vor. lan. Sanitory" in room 212. NEIL is very interesting, so is TOMKA, TOMIS and ALLA, I usually go to the institute dormitory with a friend of mine who speaks English very well, ERASH TITOV is in the fourth year at the medical institute, very bright fellow. At the dormitory we sit and talk for hours in ^{English} ~~Russian~~ ~~and~~ I am having a light affair with NEIL KOROBKA.

JAN. New Year I spend at home of ELLA GERMAIN. I think I'm in love with her. She has refused my more dishonourable advances, we drink and eat in the presence of her family in a very hospitable atmosphere. Later I go home drunk and happy. Passing the river home wards, I decide to propose to ELLA.

JAN. 2. After a pleasant winter-hand walk to the local cinema we come home, standing on the doorstep I propose. She hesitates then refuses, my love is dead but she has none for me, her reason besides lack of love; I am American and someday might be arrested simply because of that example Polish Intervention in the 20's. led to arrest of all people in the Soviet Union of Polish origin "you understand the world situation there is too much against you and you don't even know it" I am stunned ~~and~~ ~~snickers~~ at my ~~whisper~~ in ~~turning~~ to go on too stunned to think! I realize she was never serious with me but only exploited my being an American in order to get the envy of the other girls who consider me different from the Russian boys. I am miserable!

264