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Opera is also a favorite entertainment in the USSR with 32 opera and ballet houses throughout the 15 republics. As compared with one in the United States the metropolitan opera house in New York, perhaps that ~~is~~ is because the Russians have their own operas written by Chikol'tsi, and other Russian composers, while we have none. But any person can tell you about such splendid operas as "Reigen", "The Clown", "Queen of Spades", "Traviata" while in the U.S. most citizens are sadly lacking in this field of art due not to the ~~poor~~ facility that we are uneducated as the Russians think but do to the fact that we simply do have the facilities to put such productions on. Although there are those who prefer to remain tied to their T.V.S and cowboy shows.

Comedy and Drama theaters number 502 with 11 in Belerussia. By amateur and professional groups in the Russian language as the languages of the republics. In Munich the Belerussian drama theater on "VOINODARSTAYA ST." has a troupe of 55 professionals earning from 90 to 140 rubles a month putting on 4 plays a week in the Belerussian language. Sets and costumes were always well made in any productions I saw, but the scripts are apt to be over-loaded with politics in the dramas.

Museums exist for the education and <sup>pleasure</sup> ~~learning~~ of the population of these; 36,000 are Historical Revolutionary, 89,000 historical, 171,000 memorial, (the house of Chkovski in Chikol'tsi at Moscow, near the American Embassy). 421 of local or regional interest, and 122 art museums, as well as 68 more of different kinds bringing the total to exactly 907. In the year 1959 43 million people visited these places of interest as well as 7,300,000 people who visited the famous permanent exhibition of Soviet achievements in Moscow's "SKOLNITSKY" park.

Here a huge display covering 25 acres was set up in 1955 it advertised real and forced progress for Soviet and Russians alike. In it are SPUDS, jets and jet airplanes, a tractor exhibition housed in a building 300 feet long, and housing and industrial sample the light consumer industry is shown more as the Russians would like it to be than as it is. With pocket radios (these are none made in quietly in the USSR) automatic washing machines with two spinners from 1952-1958 (this were 1.2 million all simply one spinners) and modern vacuum cleaners (1952-1958 500,000) <sup>made in USSR</sup> ~~made in USSR~~ however this doesn't keep Russians from hoping that some day these things will be in mass-production, undoubtedly, they shall be.

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